

Family Liparidæ.

10. *Otroeda varunæ tenuimargo*, subsp. n.

♂. *Fore wing* with the black border much reduced, at its widest part 8 mm., behind R^2 scarcely over 1 mm. in width, vanishing in a point before M^2 ; the contained white spots also reduced, well separated, the one between R^2 and R^3 placed entirely on the ground-colour, in an angle which is formed by the apical and discal border.

Hind wing with the border rather narrow.

Abercorn, N. Rhodesia, June 1917 (*T. A. Barns*).

The first eastern representative known to me of this group. Some entomologists to whom I have shown it have thought it a good species, chiefly on account of the *angle* in the black border of the fore wing; but as I have seen some rather intermediate aberrations from the Lualaba River, Congo, I feel satisfied it is merely a local race. The black streaks from costa are not extremely attenuated; the proximal ends on M^2 about 5 mm. from its origin, the distal in a fine point just behind M^1 , but both will probably prove more or less variable in development.

XXXVII.—*Note on Laccoptera vigintisex-notata, Boheman.*

By S. MAULIK, B.A. Cantab., F.E.S., F.Z.S.

THE object of this note is to clear up the confusion among the different varieties of *Laccoptera* mentioned below. Hitherto they have been considered different species, perhaps owing to insufficient material. This note is based on the material contained in the collection of the British Museum, as well as on that of the Indian Museum and other sources from India. The figures show the form of the insect, but they are mainly intended to show the disposition and situation of the black spots on the prothorax and the elytra. The surface-structure of the insect is not represented in the drawings.

Laccoptera vigintisex-notata, Boheman.

Laccoptera 26-notata, Boh. Mon. Cassid. iii. 1855, p. 66.

Var. *Laccoptera norendeiminotata*, Boh. Mon. Cassid. iii. 1855, p. 67.

Var. *Laccoptera hospita*, Boh. Mon. Cassid. iii. 1855, p. 68.

Var. *Laccoptera multinotata*, Boh. Mon. Cassid. iii. 1855, p. 70.

Body subtriangular. Colour brown, with black spots on the prothorax and the elytra. These spots are variable in number, but their disposition in relation to each other is

Fig. 1.

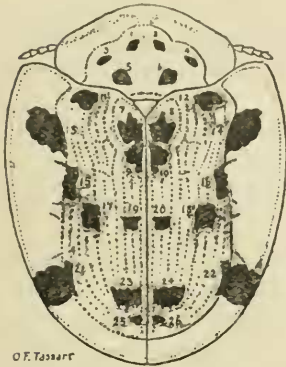


Fig. 2.

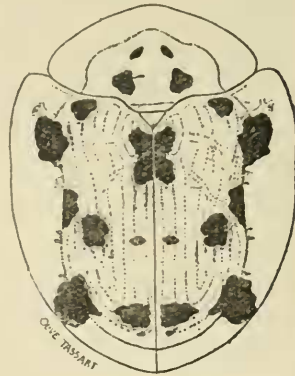


Fig. 3.

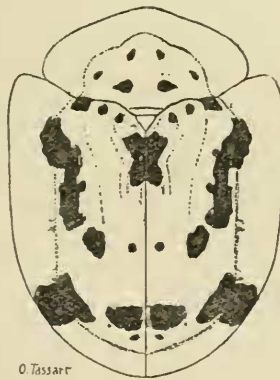


Fig. 1.—*Lacoptera 26-notata*, $\times 7$.

Fig. 2.—*Lacoptera 19-notata*, $\times 7$.

Fig. 3.—*Lacoptera hospita*, $\times 7$.

constant. By the absence of some of them or fusion with each other the number is increased or diminished. The

greatest number is twenty-six. The variation is explained in fig. 1.

Length $10\frac{1}{2}$ –10, greatest breadth 9–8 mm.

Head: dorsally completely concealed by the explanate margin of the prothorax. Viewed from the ventral side the clypeus is elevated. The antennæ are long and slender; the first joint is long and stout, the second is very small, the third is about one-and-a-half times longer than the fourth; the latter and the fifth and sixth each become smaller than the preceding one; the apical five joints are thicker and more hairy than basal six joints.

Prothorax: narrower than the elytra at base, more or less elliptical in shape; the basal margin is sinuate on either side. The upper surface is uneven, smooth, impunctate, and without wrinkles. It has six round black spots which are variable.

Scutellum: triangular, with the apex acute. The surface is smooth and impunctate.

Elytra: broader at base than the prothorax. Behind the scutellum there is a low hump. The surface is punctate-striate. The punctures are more or less square pits. The interstices are raised into costæ. There are also raised short transverse costæ joining the interstices. In many places, particularly below the hump, many punctures have run into each other, forming rather large depressions.

Underside: the claw-joint slightly projects beyond its preceding joint. The combs on either side of the claws in all the varieties are developed, that on the inner side consists of three long and one short teeth, that on the outer side consists of two long and one short teeth.

The pattern of black patches and spots, their variation and other differences between *Lacc. 26-notata*, *L. 19-notata*, *L. hospita*, and *L. multinotata* are shown in the accompanying table (p. 321).

There are two specimens in the collection of the British Museum, in one of which spots nos. 1–6 are absent, 11 and 12 are also absent, 13, 15, 17, 21, 23, and 25 have fused into a long broad band, the corresponding spots on the other elytron have also done the same, the underside is without any black markings except the two lower spots on the explanate margins of the elytra showing through. In the other specimen (N. Chin Hills, Burma) the elytral spots are almost obsolescent, 7, 8, 9, 10 are not fused, 13, 15, 21, and 25 are entirely absent, the corresponding spots on the other elytron are also absent; the whole of the underside is black. I consider these specimens as varieties of *L. 26-notata* as well.

L. 26-notata.

1. *No. of spots.*

On prothorax 6
 On hump 4
 (in many cases they fuse into one).
 On each elytron .. 8+8= 16
 (these spots are variable, in that some disappear). — 26

L. 19-notata.

1. *No. of spots.*

On prothorax 4
 (3 & 4 have disappeared; see figs. 1 & 2).
 On hump 1
 (7, 8, 9, & 10 have fused into one; fig. 2).
 On each elytron .. 7+7= 14
 (in most cases 25 & 26 have disappeared; figs. 1 & 2). — 19

L. hospita.

1. *No. of spots.*

On prothorax 6
 On hump 1
 On each elytron .. 6+6= 12
 (13, 15, & 14; 16 have fused into a long patch on each side; 19 & 20 in most cases are obsolete; if 13, 15, & 14, 16 are considered separate and 19 & 20 are counted, the total becomes 23; figs. 1 & 3). — 19

L. multinotata.

1. *No. of spots.*

On prothorax 6
 On hump 1
 On each elytron .. 6+6= 12
 (15 & 16 have disappeared; 25 & 26 have also disappeared). — 19

- Underside black except the sides; sometimes only the thoracic sterna are black.
- Usually the apical five joints of the antennæ are black or sometimes no joint is black.
- Usually four spots on the expansive margins of the elytra show through on the underside, sometimes only the lower two show through.

2. The metasterna are black; the rest is brown.

3. No joint black, sometimes two joints black.

4. Four spots show through.

2. The underside has no black patches at all.

3. Three or four or five joints black.

4. The lower two spots show through.

2. The underside has no black patches at all.

3. No joint black, sometimes four or five joints black.

4. Four spots show through.

From the above facts it can be deduced that (1) there is no structural difference between these species of Boheman, (2) the variation is confined to colour and size (*multinotata* is generally of smaller size), (3) disposition of the spots and patches in relation to each other is constant, (4) the difference in their total number is caused by the absence or fusion of two or more spots into one. These considerations point to the conclusion that the differences on which Boheman created several species may fall within individual variation. I therefore consider *19-notata*, *hospita*, and *multinotata* varieties of *26-notata*. I have selected *26-notata* as the name of the species because its description precedes those of the others in his monograph and because it is more convenient to state the maximum number first and then call others the varieties according as the number is reduced.

The insect has a wide distribution in Indo-China, Burma, the Malay Archipelago, and the adjacent islands. It seems that a variety tends to confine itself to one locality. As a rule *19-notata*, *hospita*, and *multinotata* are not found within our faunistic limits, although *19-notata* has been known to occur in Assam, Burma, and a form of *hospita* with reduced markings has been taken at Maymayo, Burma (v. 1910, H. L. Andrewes). *L. 26-notata* has been reported from Burma, Pegu, Upper Tenasserim, N.E. Assam, Sibsigar, Shillong (S. E. Peal), and Cachar. It has also been found in Tonkin. The types of these are probably in the Stockholm Museum.

XXXVIII.—*Two new Indian Cassidinæ Beetles.*

By S. MAULIK, B.A. Cantab., F.E.S., F.Z.S.

THE following descriptions are of two new insects from India. One belongs to the Indian Museum and the other to Mr. H. E. Andrewes. *Aspidomorpha chandrika*, sp. n., has a great superficial resemblance to *Chirida cruciata*, Linn. The latter is a South-American species, and the former is found in the Eastern Himalayas.

Aspidomorpha chandrika, sp. n.

Body rotundate. The colour of the disc of the prothorax,